THE

# WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, Auguſt 11, 1800.

## *Sketch of the Character of the late Rev. George Whitfield.*

[From Dr. Hawei's Hiſtory of the Church of Chriſt.]

GEORGE WHITFIELD was the ſon of an inn-keeper at Glouceſter. From his early youth he had received deep impreſſions of religion; and he carried with him to the Univerſity of Oxford, a ſerioufneſs of mind very uncommon. He began his active career, even before he was in orders, viſiting the priſons, and inſtructing the poor. Biſhop Benſon was ſo delighted with his early piety, that he ordained him at the age of twenty-one. And his firſt eſſay was a ſtriking ſpecimen of his future popularity, being heard with the moſt uncommon and awakened concern. His perſon was manly, and grew large, as he advanced in years; his voice remarkably muſical, and capable of the moſt various intonations, with a natural eloquence, too ſingular not to command the moſt profound attention. His manner was often highly graceful and oratorical; and though a caſt in his eye, ſtrongly marked, prevented the vivid impreſſion which that organ is peculiarly ſuited to make, yet no man with ſuch a diſadvantage ever looked with ſtronger ſenſibility: and after a ſecond hearing the defect was forgotten. Never man poſſeſſed a greater command of the human paſſions, or better knew the way to the conſciences of his hearers: he had arrows in his quiver, that himſelf only knew how to ſharpen. His literary attainments were moderate; though not defective in the learned languages; but his

thorough acquaintance with the ſcripture, and the peculiar art of introducing and illuſtrating every ſubject he treated, not only won the ear to liſten, but left an impreſſion on the mind never to be effaced. His labours in both hemiſpheres were immenſe; his courage undaunted; his zeal unquenchable; he fell a martyr to his work. The violence of his exertions often ſhook his conſtitution, whilſt the more placid Weſley, with equal conſtancy of preaching, preſerved his health to fourſcore and upwards unimpaired.

Perhaps no man ſince the days of St. Paul, not even Luther himſelf, was ever perſonally bleſt to the call and converſion of ſo many ſouls from darkneſs to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, as George Whitfield. The immenſe collections he made for charitable purpoſes, ſharpened the tongue of ſlander. Time hath affixed the ſeal of integrity to all his proceedures. He was reviled for his unguarded expreſſions, and ſome enthuſiaſtic flights; but he diſarmed his enemies by ingenuous acknowledgments, and correction of his miſtakes. How a youth ſurrounded with ſuch popularity, and conſcious of his own powers, was preſerved from hatching the old ſerpent's egg, laid in every human heart, is wonderful. The keen eye of malevolence was upon him ready to ſeize occaſion againſt him, or to make it; and it is a proof of no inconſiderable excellence, where ſo many watched for his halting, that amidſt the moſt virulent abuſe, ſo little could be found juſtly to accuſe him. They who knew him beſt, muſt witneſs how holily and unblameably he had his converſation in the world. Indeed he was ſo taken up with the unwearied labours of his miniſtry, in preaching, religious exerciſes, and advice to thoſe who were daily applying to him, that he had ſometimes ſcarcely leiſure for neceſſary food. The very things for which he was abuſed, he eſteemed his glory; and reſolved to ſpend and be ſpent on the ſervice of the ſouls for whom Chriſt died. But he had his ſpots, and ſo hath the ſun. He would have himſelf acknowledged many more than the neareſt of his friends, or the bittereſt of his enemies, could diſcover. He is now alike beyond cenſure or commendation. What I remarked in him, I will ſpeak and not be aſhamed.

In his preaching he ſometimes puſhed the ludicrous to the debaſement of the dignity of the ſacred miniſtry. He told a ſtory ſo well, that it ſeduced him occaſionally to purſue a vein of humour, more ſuited to excite riſibility than to awaken ſerioufneſs; though ſome impreſſive truth always cloſed the relation.

The

The orphan houſe of Georgia, which he adopted with too partial affection, ſeems to have engaged him in difficulties and immenſity of expence, greater than any utility which ever appeared to be derived from it; and the vaſt collections he made for it, though faithfully applied, gave a handle to the ſlanders of ſuſpicion.

He too frequently indulged in cenſures of the clergy, which however juſt they might be, ſeemed the effect of reſentment, and would rather tend to exaſperate than conciliate their attention. Yet it is well known he was remarkably kind ſpirited, and averſe to controverſy and its bitterneſs; and his moſt intimate friends will bear me witneſs, that his temper was as amiable, and his converſation as ſingularly chearful, as his piety was deep and ſincere.

On the whole, as a man, as a Chriſtian, as a miniſter, we ſhall not I fear look upon his like again ſpeedily. After paſſing through evil report and good report, during more than thirty years of inceſſant labour, he entered into his reſt in America, which had peculiarly benefited by his viſits; having croſſed the Atlantic thirteen times, to preach the everlaſting goſpel, with the power of the Holy Ghoſt, ſent down from Heaven. Whatever ignorance of his real character, the fatuity of prejudice, or the inſolence of pride may have ſuggeſted, the day is coming, when his great and adorable Maſter will condemn every tongue that hath riſen up in judgment againſt him, and ſay in the preſence of men and Angels, "Well done, good and faithful ſervant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

---

## *An Account of the Country and Inhabitants at Port Diſcovery.*

[From Vancouver's Voyage to the Pacific Ocean.]

*(Continued from Page 85.)*

IN their weapons, implements, canoes, and dreſs, they vary little. Their native woollen garment was moſt in faſhion, next to it the ſkins of deer, bear, &c. a few wore dreſſes manufactured from bark, which like their woollen ones were neatly wrought.

Their ſpears, arrows, fiſh-gigs, and other weapons, were ſhaped exactly like thoſe of Nootka, but none were pointed with copper, or with muſcle-ſhell; the three former were

generally barbed, and thoſe pointed with common flint, agate, and bone, ſeemed of their original workmanſhip. Yet more of their arrows were obſerved to be pointed with thin flat iron than with bone or flint, and it was very ſingular that they ſhould prefer exchanging thoſe pointed with iron to any of the others. Their bows were of a ſuperior conſtruction; theſe in general were from two and a half to three feet in length; the broadeſt part in the middle was about an inch and a half, and about three quarters of an inch thick, neatly made, gradually tapering to each end, which terminated in a ſhoulder, and a hook for the ſecurity of the bow-ſtring. They were all made of yew, and choſen with a naturally inverted curve ſuited to the method of uſing them. From end to end of the concave ſide, which when ſtrung became the convex part, a very ſtrong ſtrip of an elaſtic hide is attached to ſome, and the ſkins of ſerpents to others, exactly the ſhape and length of the bow, neatly and firmly fixed to the wood by means of a cement, the adheſive property of which I never ſaw or heard of being equalled. It is not to be affected by either dry or damp weather, and forms ſo ſtrong a connection with the wood, as to prevent a ſeparation without deſtroying the component parts of both: the bow-ſtring is made with the ſinew of ſome marine animal, laid looſe in order to be twiſted at pleaſure, as the temperature of the atmoſphere may require, to preſerve it at a proper length. Thus is this very neat little weapon rendered portable, elaſtic, and effective in the higheſt degree, if we may be allowed to judge by the dexterity with which it was uſed by one of the natives at Port Diſcovery.

We had little opportunity of acquiring any ſatisfactory information with regard to the public regulations or private œconomy of theſe people. The ſituation and appearance of the places we found them generally inhabiting, indicated their being much accuſtomed to a change of reſidence; the deſerted villages tended to ſtrengthen the conjecture of their being wanderers. Territorial property appeared to be of little importance; there was plenty of room for their fixed habitations; and thoſe of a temporary nature, which we now found them moſtly to occupy, being principally compoſed of croſs ſticks covered with a few mats, as eaſily found a ſpot for their erection, as they were removed from one ſtation to another, either as inclination might lead or neceſſity compel: and having a very extenſive range of domain, they were not liable to interruption or oppoſition from their few ſurrounding neighbours.

From

From theſe circumſtances alone it may be ſomewhat premature to conclude, that this delightful country has always been thus thinly inhabited; on the contrary, there are reaſons to believe it has been infinitely more populous. Each of the deſerted villages was nearly, if not quite equal, to contain all the ſcattered inhabitants we ſaw, according to the cuſtom of the Nootka people; to whom theſe have great affinity in their perſons, faſhions, wants, comforts, conſtruction of theſe their fixed habitations, and in their general character. It is alſo poſſible that moſt of the clear places may have been indebted, for the removal of their timber and underwood, to manual labour. Their general appearance furniſhed this opinion, and their ſituation, on the moſt pleaſant and commanding eminences, protected by the foreſt on every ſide except that which would have precluded a view of the ſea, ſeemed to encourage the idea. Not many years ſince each of theſe vacant places might have been allotted to the habitations of different ſocieties, and the variation obſerved in their extent might have been conformable to the ſize of each village; on the ſite of which, ſince their abdication or extermination, nothing but the ſmaller ſhrubs and plants had yet been able to rear their heads.

In our different excurſions, particularly thoſe in the neighbourhood of Port Diſcovery, the ſkull, limbs, ribs, and backbones, or ſome other veſtiges of the human body, were found in many places, promiſcuouſly ſcattered about the beach in great numbers. Similar relics were alſo frequently met with during our ſurvey in the boats; and I was informed by the officers, that in their ſeveral perambulations the like appearances had preſented themſelves ſo repeatedly, and in ſuch abundance, as to produce an idea that the environs of Port Diſcovery were a general cementery for the whole of the ſurrounding country. Notwithſtanding theſe circumſtances do not amount to a direct proof of the extenſive population they indicate, yet, when combined with other appearances, they warranted an opinion, that at no very remote period this country had been far more populous than at preſent. Some of the human bodies were found diſpoſed of in a very ſingular manner. Canoes were ſuſpended between two or more trees about twelve feet from the ground, in which were the ſkeletons of two or three perſons, others of a larger ſize were hauled up into the outſkirts of the woods, which contained from four to ſeven ſkeletons covered over with a broad plank. In ſome of theſe, broken bows and arrows were found, which at firſt gave riſe to a conjecture that

theſe

theſe might have been warriors, who, after being mortally wounded, had, whilſt their ſtrength remained, hauled up their canoes for the purpoſe of expiring quietly in them. But on a further examination this became improbable, as it would hardly have been poſſible to have preſerved the regularity of poſition in the agonies of death, or to have defended their ſepulchres with the broad plank with which each was covered.

The few ſkeletons we ſaw ſo carefully depoſited in the canoes, were probably the chiefs, prieſts, or leaders of particular tribes, whoſe followers moſt likely continue to poſſeſs the higheſt reſpect for their memory and remains; and the general knowledge I had obtained from experience of the regard which all ſavage nations pay to their funeral ſolemnities, made me particularly ſolicitous to prevent any indignity which might be wantonly offered to their departed friends; baſkets were alſo found ſuſpended on high trees, each containing the ſkeleton of a young child; in ſome of which were alſo ſmall ſquare boxes filled with a kind of white paſte, reſembling ſuch as I had ſeen the natives eat, ſuppoſed to be made of the ſaranne-root; ſome of theſe boxes were quite full, others nearly empty, eaten probably by the mice, ſquirrels, or birds. On the next low point, ſouth of our encampment, where the gunners were airing their powder, they met with ſeveral holes in which human bodies were interred ſlightly covered over, and in different ſtates of decay, ſome appearing to have been very recently depoſited. About half a mile to the northward of our tents, where the land is nearly level with high-water mark, a few paces within the ſkirting of the wood, a canoe was found ſuſpended between two trees, in which were three human ſkeletons; and a few paces to the right was a cleared place of nearly forty yards round, where, from the firſt appearance of the burnt ſtumps, moſt of its vegetable productions had very lately been conſumed by fire. Amongſt the aſhes we found the ſkulls and other bones of near twenty perſons in different ſtages of calcination; the fire however had not reached the ſuſpended canoe, nor did it appear to have been intended that it ſhould. The ſkeletons found thus diſpoſed in canoes, or in baſkets, bore a very ſmall proportion to the number of ſkulls and other bones indiſcriminately ſcattered about the ſhores. Such are the effects; but of the cauſe or cauſes that have operated to produce them, we remained totally unacquainted; whether occaſioned by epidemic diſeaſe, or recent wars. The character and general deportment of the few inhabitants we occaſionally

caſionally ſaw, by no means countenanced the latter opinion; they were uniformly civil and friendly, without manifeſting the leaſt ſign of fear or ſuſpicion at our approach; nor did their appearance indicate their having been much inured to hoſtilities. Several of their ſtouteſt men had been ſeen perfectly naked, and, contrary to what might have been expected of rude nations habituated to warfare, their ſkins were moſtly unblemiſhed by ſcars, excepting ſuch as the ſmall-pox ſeemed to have occaſioned; a diſeaſe which there is great reaſon to believe is very fatal amongſt them. It is not however very eaſy to draw any juſt concluſions on the true cauſe from which this havoc of the human race proceeded, which muſt remain for the inveſtigation of others who may have more leiſure, and a better opportunity to direct ſuch an inquiry; yet it may not be unreaſonable to conjecture, that the preſent apparent depopulation may have ariſen in ſome meaſure from the inhabitants of this interior part having been induced to quit their former abode, and to have moved nearer the exterior coaſt, for the convenience of obtaining in the immediate mart, with more eaſe, and at a cheaper rate, thoſe valuable articles of commerce, that within theſe late years have been brought to the ſea-coaſts of this continent by Europeans and the citizens of America, and which are in great eſtimation amongſt theſe people, being poſſeſſed by all in a greater or leſs degree.

## GENERAL REVIEW *of* POLITICS,

### For July, 1800.

### *ITALY.*

IN our laſt ſketch a ſhort mention was made of the important battle of Marengo, to which we are now enabled to make a few additions, and to correct the miſtakes that were made in the firſt accounts of the numbers of the killed and wounded. Until the approach of evening it was ſuppoſed the victory would have been decided on the ſide of the Auſtrians; but the battle was ultimately won by the French; Bonaparte, in perſon, rallied the troops, and by his exertions contributed to the event. Great valour and conduct were diſplayed, and the French accounts ſtate that both ſides admired the courage of their opponents. The ſlaughter muſt have been prodigious; they eſtimate the loſs of the Auſtrians at 3000 killed, and 5000 wounded: there is no room to doubt,

doubt, from their ordinary diſregard of life, that their own loſs was, at leaſt, equal. General Melas after the battle was fought the 14th of June, entered into a convention, by which in conſideration of an armiſtice being granted for a limited time, he agreed to put the enemy in poſſeſſion of all the ſtrong places in Upper Italy. In purſuance of this treaty, the French were admitted into Tortona on the 18th; to Aleſſandria, Milan, and Turin, on the 20th; and into Genoa about the ſame time: Lord Keith very properly refuſed to ſurrender the neutral veſſels which had entered the port during the blockade, without an adequate ranſom. This was at length agreed to, and ſix hundred thouſand livres (26,250l.) paid for them.

## *PIEDMONT.*

Towards this country Bonaparte ſeems to act with cautious duplicity. He iſſued on the 23d of June three decrees for regulating the government, by which a conſulta is eſtabliſhed, conſiſting of thirty members, the preſident of whom is to be the miniſter of the French government, but this body has no power to perform any act of government. This authority is proviſionally veſted in a commiſſion of ſeven members, who are to unite all the powers, legiſlative as well as judicial, and they are to propoſe to the conſulta the laws and regulations which may appear neceſſary. The French miniſter-extraordinary is charged with all the affairs of the Piedmonteſe government. It is obſerved, that in this proclamation Bonaparte never uſes the word republic or kingdom, but confines himſelf to the generical term, nation: ſo that in all probability the final denomination of the territory will depend on the reſult of pacific negociation.

## *MALTA,*

If we may believe the French accounts, is abundantly victualled for ſeveral months, in ſpite of the vigilance of the Britiſh fleet. It is not in our power to pronounce this aſſertion untrue, but it muſt be received with a conſiderable degree of miſtruſt, when we recollect how confidently the ſame thing was ſaid of Genoa, a very few days before its ſurrender.

## *GERMANY.*

The French arms have been no leſs ſucceſsful in this quarter than in Italy. On the 22d of June the army croſſed the Danube; this dangerous operation was facilitated by the courage of four-and-twenty ſwimmers, who paſſed over firſt

with their muſkets and cartouch boxes in two ſkiffs, and maintained a poſition near the villages of Grenſheim and Blindheim, till the reſt of the army joined them. They were oppoſed by the Auſtrians in vain; a battle was fought on the plains of Hochſtet, in which the enemy were victors: they took, by their own account, 5000 priſoners, and were ſo elated with this ſucceſs as to expreſs hopes in their official diſpatch, that this victory would efface the memory of that celebrated one gained by the Duke of Marlborough on the ſame ſpot about the beginning of the century. Kray was in conſequence obliged to break up his ſtrong entrenched camp before Ulm. He afterwards fought ſeveral ſevere battles till the 28th, when the French who had croſſed the river, being reinforced by three columns under Montrichard, Grandjean, and Lecourbe, utterly defeated him at Oberhauſen, and obliged him to retreat to Ingolſtat. General Kray appears to have made an effort to avail himſelf of the ceſſation of arms in Italy, in order to give time to the court of Munich to provide for the ſafety of Bavaria, which was left uncovered, and which Moreau would not fail to overrun in caſe of a proſperous iſſue of the impending battle with the Auſtrians. The French General, however, refuſed the armiſtice, and ſent a detachment to Munich, under General De Caen, which took poſſeſſion of that city on the day of the battle of Oberhauſen. The Elector with all his court has been, in conſequence, obliged to ſeek refuge.

Kray left a garriſon of 12,000 men in Ulm, which place was immediately beſieged by the French, but without effect. In conſequence of their ſucceſſes the French have been enabled to levy the following contributions:

| | |
|---|---|
| On the abbey of St. Blaſten, | 300,000 livres. |
| The abbey of Peterhauſen, | 50,000 |
| Salmanſwell - - - - | 200,000 |
| Baludt - - - - | 73,000 |
| Schuſſenreid - - - | 100,000 |
| Weingarten - - - | 100,000 |
| Weiſſenau - - - | 36,000 |
| Marchthal - - - | 40,000 |
| Ochſenhauſen - - - | 150,000 |
| The commendatory of Aichauſen | 150,000 |
| The Prince of Furſtenberg | 500,000 |

amounting together, allowing the livre at tenpence halfpenny, to 74,330l. 15s. ſterling. The conduct of the French army is ſaid to be very different from what it was

during its firſt eruption into Germany. At that period the route of the French troops was every where marked with traces of the moſt wanton ravage, and univerſal terror and deſolation were inſeparable from their progreſs. Now the ſtricteſt diſcipline is obſerved by the ſoldiers, and the officers ſeem anxious to efface the impreſſions made by their former barbarity and rapine.

Immediately after his victory at Marengo, the Chief Conſul ſent off an expreſs to the Emperor to open a negociation for peace. Upon this ſubject a conſiderable degree of anxiety and doubt prevails. The Emperor has refuſed to negociate without conſulting his ally the King of Great-Britain, and in this he diſplays an honeſt, firm, and conſiſtent ſpirit. But if Bonaparte ſhould perſiſt in his policy of treating ſeparately with every power, the queſtion is, how can the Emperor reſiſt ſuch propoſitions as he may be pleaſed to dictate? The French papers make a terrific diſplay of their military ſtrength. "The Valteline," they ſay, "is occupied by the left of the diviſion under the command of General Moncey, whoſe head-quarters are at Breſcia. The right of the army extends, by ſmall detachments, as far as Lucca, Maſſadi-Carara, Romagna, and the banks of the Adriatic. Genoa, and the whole territory of the republic, Piedmont, and all its fortreſſes, as far as the Mincio and Foſſa, and Maeſtra, are alſo in the poſſeſſion of the French army.

"The General of Artillery, Lacombe St. Michael, is traverſing Piedmont with two thouſand horſes, harneſſed for the purpoſe of carrying every article neceſſary for carrying on ſieges. All the detachments belonging to the corps which compoſed the army of reſerve, and which were on their way to Italy by forced marches, have joined the army. The army of the republic, now in Italy, is certainly the moſt complete in every reſpect which it ever had there. On the other hand, General Moreau is concentering all his force in Bavaria, and thirty thouſand men, conſiſting of French and Bavarians, with a park of artillery, compoſed of more than eighty pieces of cannon, are filing off by Mentz and Duſſeldorff, under the command of General Angereau. The advanced guard of the ſecond army of reſerve is already filing off by Switzerland. Numerous convoys of artillery and detachments of cavalry are every day marching from Paris to Dijon, and ſeveral battalions of the young men of the weſtern departments, who are now attached to the government, are alſo on their route to reinforce the army."

This

This ſtatement is undoubtedly formidable, and perhaps not greatly exaggerated; but ſtill there is no reaſon to conjecture that the Emperor muſt be compelled to a ſeparate peace. He is yet capable of great exertions, and however confidently a victorious army may talk of marching to a hoſtile capital, it is well known that ſuch a meaſure, if practicable, is no leſs pregnant with alarm and danger to the invaders than it is to their opponents. Conjecture, however, muſt remain for a while ſuſpended, till the progreſs of this negociation can be mere fully known. The ceſſation of arms granted in Italy has been extended to Germany, and accounts may be daily expected of the definitive intentions of the two powers.

## *FRANCE.*

Elated with the flow of military ſucceſs, the French character appears in all its wonted confidence; magnificent ſpectacles, and every kind of adulation are exhauſted in the profuſion of homage to the Firſt Conſul, and the ſame proſtration is diſplayed towards him as was exhibited towards Louis XIV. in the moſt ſucceſsful and brilliant era of his reign.

Bonaparte, with that ſolicitude for vulgar acclamation by which he has ever been diſtinguiſhed, ſeeks by an affected diſplay of grand and heroic diſpoſitions, to keep alive the popular enthuſiaſm, and turn it to his own private account. On his way to Paris he viſited Lyons, and with a great affectation of patriotic zeal, laid the firſt ſtone of the ſquare of Bellecour, deſtroyed during the reign of terror, by the ſanguinary ruffian Collot d'Herbois. In Paris, diſcharges of artillery, illuminations, deputations, and gratulatory addreſſes, marked the ſatisfaction and gratitude of the people.

Yet Bonaparte muſt know, that during the French revolution, popularity as gigantic, and power as extenſive, though not ſo well merited as his own, have been but the prelude to diſgrace, and even the ſcaffold; he may not yet have any reaſon to apprehend ſuch a cataſtrophe, but he cannot regard with indifference ſome manifeſtations of diſpleaſure, which even the rigid tyranny of the preſent government has not been able to repreſs. Bonaparte muſt know, that in this age intolerance is exerciſed by infidels in a more violent degree than it was in former times by zealous bigots, and, therefore, that the juſt ſyſtem of toleration which he is endeavouring to eſtabliſh in favour of Chriſtianity, will raiſe him up many enemies. He muſt know, that unjuſt, forcible, or fraudulent

poſſeſſion, is far more ſubject to fear and irritability than a juſt title, and, conſequently, that his lenity towards the emigrants expoſes him to all the machinations of malignant cowardice. His ludicrous affectation of attachment to the Catholic religion cannot gain him any friends, but muſt expoſe him to contempt and hatred, while the apparent royaliſm of his government and deportment has already given birth to ſevere invectives, and bitter ſarcaſms.

In Switzerland the French have occupied Feldkirch, Coire, and the whole country of the Grifons.

## *RUSSIA.*

Paul I. deluded by the flatteries and impoſtures of French agents, ſeems to eſtrange himſelf more and more from England, and is reported to be forming a confederacy with other powers of the north, to reſtrain the aſcendency of the Britiſh naval power. He ſeems not to conſider that naval power as the beſt protection of his own dominion, as the ſhield which has ſecured his country while ſtruggling to emerge from barbariſm: he forgets how dreadful it would be as an enemy, and how neceſſary it ſtill is in friendly offices.

## *GREAT BRITAIN.*

So far as this country has been actively engaged in warfare, her arms have been generally ſucceſsful. In Africa we have taken the ſettlement of Goree; a capture of no great importance, but of value to the enemy, if ever they mean to re-eſtabliſh their African commerce. The expedition equipped to annoy the French coaſt, beſides keeping the country in a ſtate of alarm, has ſucceeded in diſtreſſing the enemy by deſtroying and cutting out ſeveral of their ſhips.

On the 1ſt of July, the ſquadron under Sir John Borlaſe Warren, ran into Bourneuf Bay, and, in the teeth of a ſtrong battery, attacked a ſquadron of veſſels, chiefly laden with corn, timber, and ſtores for the grand fleet at Breſt. They ſucceeded in taking or deſtroying four armed veſſels, mounting together fifty guns, and fifteen ſail of merchant ſhips. Unfortunately the tide ebbed out, ſome of the boats after performing this ſpirited enterprize were ſtranded, and four officers and eighty-eight men were captured by the enemy.

On the 8th another part of the ſquadron made an attempt to burn the ſhips in Dunkirk harbour, but as the enemy were apprized of their deſign, they could only ſucceed in cutting out and ſecuring the frigate La Deſiree, of forty guns, and 330 men. The ſhips and troops engaged in an expedition againſt

againſt Belleiſle are returned, it is ſuppoſed for freſh orders. —The debates in Parliament have been conducted with ſome ſpirit, but the ranks of oppoſition are thin, and their efforts feeble. A motion was made by Mr. Sheridan for an enquiry into the ſtate of the nation, but without ſucceſs. The arguments contained no novelty, nor were they recommended by any feature of the times, except the triumphs of the enemy.

The moſt pleaſing circumſtances of the preſent month are the beautiful appearance of the different crops, and the proſpect of an early and abundant harveſt, which has already, in ſome meaſure, reduced the price of bread, and afford almoſt a certainty that it will once more be rendered at a moderate price. The laudable attempts which are now making to puniſh foreſtallers are alſo likely to be productive of the beſt effects.

---

## ACCOUNT *of the* IRON MINE *in the* ISLE *of* ELBA.

*By* M. TROUSSON DE COUDRAI.

[From the Journal de Phyſique.]

OF all the kinds of iron ore, none has obtained more notice than that of Elba, both on account of its ſingular beauty and richneſs, and the peculiar ſituation in which it is found. It is the general opinion that the whole of the iſland is an entire maſs of iron ore, and that in approaching it from the ſea, the compaſs is ſo much affected by it, as no longer to preſerve its polarity. Both theſe reports are, however, almoſt equally fabulous. The iron, though extremely abundant, is only found in one particular diſtrict, and the ore itſelf is not in the ſmalleſt degree capable of affecting the magnet.

The only mine that has ever been worked in this iſland, is ſituated on the weſtern ſide, cloſe to the channel of Piombino, which ſeparates Elba from the main land of Italy. The whole, indeed, of this ſide of the iſland, whenever the ſurface is laid bare by torrents, or the rain, ſhows itſelf to be fully charged with iron; all the rocks on the coaſt are interſected with veins of iron ore, more or leſs pure, and mixed with white and red quartz. The rocks themſelves are ſchiſtoſe, conſiſting for the moſt part of novaculite very hard and compact; when expoſed to the air, however, paſſing by decompoſition into a white clay of great fineneſs.

The

The ore is not found in veins but in detached maſſes of various ſizes, and at different depths, without any apparent order or continuity, preſenting the metal under the various forms of ochre, hematite, micaceous iron ore, manganeſe, and the cryſtallized ore: this latter is the kind that is found in the greateſt abundance, and from which the former appear to be only derivatives. The commoneſt variety of the cryſtallized is in the form of irregular pyramids and needles cluſtered together, and of a grey colour, and brilliant metallic ſplendour, like poliſhed caſt iron. The other two varieties offer cryſtallizations in the form of nail-heads and priſms, ſome as large as the finger, and of ſcales or plates fixed in each other in various directions. Theſe varieties have no uniform colour, but unite in ſplendid aſſemblage the brilliancy of poliſhed ſteel with the brighteſt tints of green, red, black, brown, yellow, blue and violet of every ſhade. Cryſtals of quartz are often found intermixed, diſplaying all the colours of the metal with which they are ſurrounded.

The ſpecific gravity of the ore is nearly ſix times that of water, its hardneſs is very great, and it is for the moſt part entirely free from earthly admixtures: it conſiſts of iron and about 40 per cent. of ſulphur, on which account it is readily fuſible.

The whole mine is entirely open to the air, forming a large quarry or excavation, nearly 2000 yards in extent, and of very various depth: the ore begins to be met with thirty or forty yards below the ſurface, and ſeems more abundant and purer in proportion to the depth from which it is procured: the ſuperincumbent earth and looſe ſtones are cleared away by the ſpade and pick-axe, and the blocks of ore reduced to ſmaller pieces by blaſting.

The ſcarcity of wood in the iſland renders it impoſſible to ſmelt any of the ore on the ſpot; the whole of it, therefore, is diſpoſed of at the very moderate price of about twenty ſhillings a ton, to the founderies of Sardinia, Tuſcany, Genoa, Corſica, and the Eccleſiaſtical State. Here it is manufactured in the common manner, except that it requires no flux in the ſmelting proceſs. The produce of caſt iron is about 70, and of bar iron about 50 per cent.

The Elban iron is of the very beſt quality, equal to the fineſt Swediſh: it may be wrought both hot and cold with the greateſt facility, is remarkable tough and ſtringy; and entirely free from that brittleneſs when heated, which the beſt French and Spaniſh is but too apt to poſſeſs. On ac-

count of these valuable properties it is preferred, whenever it is known, to all other kinds for barrels of muskets.

The property of this mine is vested in the Prince of Piombino, who is sovereign of the whole island, except Porto-Ferrario and Porto-Langone, the one being usurped by Tuscany, and the other by Naples. It finds occupation for about 150 of his subjects, and brings in a clear annual revenue to the Prince of 80,000 crowns.

## INTERESTING TRIAL.

*LINCOLN's INN HALL, July 26.*

DEVISME *v.* MELLISH and Others.

THIS was a bill filed on the part of Miss Emily Devisme, the daughter of the late General Devisme, against the trustees and executors of her father's will, and against his heir at law and next of kin.

The object of the bill was, that the General's will might be declared to be well proved, and that the Chancellor might give directions as to its execution. The plaintiff, Miss Devisme, it appeared, was born in March, 1787, at Lisbon, where the General had resided for several years for the benefit of his health. He afterwards came over to this country with his daughter, and died, having previously made his will by which he bequeathed 50l. to each of his relations by blood or marriage for mourning-rings; 100l. a year to Miss Green, the governess of his daughter: 500l. for the erection of a mausoleum; and 1000l. a-year to his daughter during her minority, which he declared should not determine till she was twenty-five years of age, or should marry with the approbation of her trustees. He also left her his house in Grosvenor-square, and his house at Wimbledon for her residence, together with the furniture in them, and his superb collection of jewels, pictures, books, and curiosities; and on her arriving at the age of twenty-five years, or being married, he left her the whole of his immense property, with remainder to her children, with several contingent limitations, in case of her dying without issue. This, with legacies of 500l. to each of his executors, formed the general scope of his will.

The points that required the interference of the Chancellor were these:—In the first place, the bequest of 50l. to each of the General's relations had roused his paternal and maternal cousins,

couſins, and the couſins of them to the twentieth and thirtieth degrees of conſanguinity; it was therefore prayed that ſome limits might be ſet to the degree of relationſhip beyond which the claim of the legacy ſhould not be allowed.

The Chancellor expreſſed no difficulty on this point; he confined the claimants to ſuch relations as would have been intitled to a ſhare of his perſonal eſtate under the ſtatute of diſtributions. In the next place it was ſtated, that the General had before his death moved a great part of his furniture and curioſities to a houſe at Bath, in which he had intended to reſide: it was doubted whether the plaintiff was intitled to this under the will. The Chancellor decided that ſhe was. Another point ſubmitted to the Chancellor was, with reſpect to the conduct of the truſtees towards the young lady:—they had juſtly conceived that 1000l. a-year would be a very inadequate eſtabliſhment, if ſhe were allowed to occupy the two houſes in Groſvenor-ſquare and Wimbledon, one of which was worth 400l. and the other 300l. a year; inſtead therefore of ſuffering her to reſide in them, they had let them, and placed her at one of the firſt-rate boarding-ſchools. The Chancellor approved of their diſcretion in this reſpect.

The next difficulty was, the General had left 500l. for a mauſoleum, to be erected by his executors; but it appeared he had nearly completed it in his life-time: the queſtion was, whether they had done right in finiſhing the one he had begun, or were to erect another? The Chancellor was of the former opinion. The General had been very particular about this mauſoleum, directing a little plantation to be made round it, and giving 10l. a-year to the pariſh of Wimbledon to keep it in order.

Laſtly, the heir at law ſubmitted that the plaintiff was an alien at the time of the General's death, and conſequently incapable of ſucceeding to his property. To this objection the Chancellor would not allow the leaſt weight, and if it had, the heir at law would not have been benefitted, for the right of the crown would have interpoſed. It appeared the plaintiff had been naturalized by act of Parliament.—Thus the will was declared well proved,—every difficulty removed, and Miſs Deviſme confirmed in the poſſeſſion of her immenſe property.

## *A* REFLECTION.

TO contribute to the comfort of extreme old age, and to ſmooth its way to another world, is exquiſitely gratifying to a virtuous mind.

## *Artful Method of cheating practiſed by the Rat-Catchers on the River Thames.*

[From Colquhoun's Treatiſe on the Commerce and Police of the River Thames.]

THE ingenuity of men, devoid of the principles of moral rectitude, is ever fertile in deviſing the means of acquiring ſupport by criminal expedients. Among the various claſſes of delinquents, who have contributed to the removal of plunder from ſhips and veſſels in the river Thames, are to be included a ſet of individuals who pretend to follow the profeſſion of rat-catchers. Many ſhips being infeſted with rats, recourſe is had to perſons who pretend to have a knowledge of the means of deſtroying them. They are permitted with this view to go on board in the night to ſet their traps, and afterwards to viſit them at ſuch hours as they chooſe to preſcribe to themſelves. In this ſituation they become uſeful auxiliaries to lumpers and others, who have concealed plunder in the hold, until a convenient opportunity occurs for removing it, which they generally are enabled to accompliſh without ſuſpicion. It has been ſaid that, in ſome inſtances, they not only commit depredations themſelves, but for the purpoſe of getting acceſs to different ſhips, and to increaſe the demand for their *profeſſional labours*, they have even been accuſtomed to convey the rats alive from one ſhip to another, as a means of receiving payment for catching the ſame animals three or four times over.

---

*Anſwer, by J. B. Chivers, Schoolmaſter, to A. Corſe's Queſtion, inſerted March 24.*

PUT $x$ = the height of the wall, and $y$ = the breadth of the ditch; put alſo $b$=8, $a$=25, and $d$=5.6ths; then $x^2+y^2=a^2$, and $b^2+2by+y^2+d^2x^{-2}=a^2$; the ſquare of $x$ being found in the firſt equation, and ſubſtituted in the ſecond for its equal, gives $y$ in a quadratic equation; the reſolution of which gives $y$=7. Hence the height of the wall is 24 feet, and the breadth of the ditch 7 feet, as required.—Q. E. D.

*** We have received the like anſwer from G. Hazell, of Clovelly; J. Wyatt, aſſiſtant at Gittiſham ſchool; E. Robins, of Saint Auſtell; and John Smith, of the Royal Artillery.

*Anſwer, by E. Sherman, of Cornwood, to Y.'s Charade, inſerted May 26.*

YOUR firſt is SON, your ſecond NET;
To print this, Sir, pray don't forget.

*** We have received the like anſwer from R. Andrews and J. King, of Kingſbridge; W. Harris, jun. of Exeter; R. Maffett, of Saltaſh; Philom. of Teingmouth; W. Bickham, junior, of Aſhburton; C. W. Weſt, near Taunton; G. England, of Uplyme; G. Hazel, of Clovelly; T. Jarvis, of Malborough; J. R. Toulmin, of Barnſtaple; Richard Baker, of the Poole Volunteers; W. Rennels, of Barnſtaple; J. Bulgin, of Caſtle Cary; J. Staple, of Briſtol; and R. Maffett, of Saltaſh.

---

*A* CHARADE, *by T. Jarvis, of Malborough.*

YE nymphs and ſwains your ſelves prepare,
Lo! Ceres calls you to the fields;
'Tis there my firſt demands your care—
The bleſſing yellow autumn yields.

Old Phœbus with his cheering ray
Now paints with gold the laughing plain;
And ſee each ruſtic haſtes away
To gather the abounding grain.

Oh what a contraſt! when around
Bleak, wintry ſtorms inceſſant roar;
Or when the tempeſt-eaten ground
Is with my next incruſted o'er.

Ye gents! when theſe drear ſcenes ariſe
Beneath your friendly roofs retire;
Seek ſhelter from the inclement ſkies
Beſide a comfortable fire.

Nor need you then your dwellings leave
My ornamental whole to find;
As you will eaſily perceive
When both theſe parts you have combin'd.

ERRATUM.—*In the rebus inſerted in the Entertainer for July 28, in the 5th line, for* ſong *read* ſon.

# POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

## *On* SUMMER.

NOW the all-beauteous orb of day
Thro' Cancer takes his flaming courſe,
And, as he rolls his ſultry ray,
Strikes the wide earth with pow'rful force.

Early is flush'd the orient ſky,
Creation's charms he doth unfold;
The languid ſhades before him fly,
And tinge the hills with fluid gold.

Gay ſummer ſhines beneath his ray,
And decks with plenty Albion's plain;
Swiftly it drives diſtreſs away,
And fills each heart with grateful ſtrains.

Britons with joyful hearts now view,
Each hill and vale with harveſt crown'd;
The ripen'd corn in golden hue
In glorious plenty doth abound.

In bounteous crops the new made hay
Safe ſtor'd in ricks which deck the fields,
A pleaſing ſight they now diſplay,
And a delightful fragrance yield.

Early the lark his ſtrains renews.
And riſing hails the infant day;
At night when fall the ſoftening dews,
Sweet Philomela pours her lay.

The whole creation doth rejoice
Its Maker's holy name to raiſe;
Come, man! with elevated voice,
Pour forth to him eternal praiſe.

From him doth every comfort flow,
"And man and beaſt his bounty ſhare;"
The ſeaſons do his mercy ſhow,
He ſhoots perfection thro' the year.

P. GOVE.

*Exeter, July* 21, 1800.

## SUMMER's EVE.

PLACID eve ſucceeds the day,
Sol withdraws his ſcorching ray;

Now

Now the zephyr's whiſp'ring breeze
Wantons thro' the waving trees;
Ruddy ſtreaks ſuffuſe the ſky,
Heifers ruminating lie;
Woolly flocks in meadows bleat,
Frogs their hollow croaks repeat;
Grateful dews on plains deſcend,
Verdant hills their ſhades extend;
Ruſtics, as they trudge along,
Greet the evening with a ſong;
Rooks their paſturage forſake,
Skims the ſwallow o'er the lake;
Plumy minſtrels of the groves
Ceaſe to carol forth their loves;
Each retiring to its neſt,
Courts the ſilent hour of reſt.
Hark! receding from the ſhore,
Ocean's far-off waters roar;
Sea-mews their white pennons lave,
Plunging in the curling wave;
Now the ambient ſhades of night
Screen the landſcape from the ſight.

W. CASE, Jun.

---

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

## SOLILOQUY *written at* IVY-BRIDGE.

THOU art deceiv'd, my ſoul, ah why
Should ſtill the flattering ſnare betray?
Can beauty give to life a joy
To poize the peace it takes away?
Is it not juſt, "that love a ſlave
"Hath made the mighty, wiſe, and brave?
"And therefore vain reſiſtance all,
"Thoſe ſtrove not: thou muſt ſurely fall."

Experience, ah! too late hath told
They were deceiv'd; the flattering ſnare
(Poſſeſſion of the heart its hold)
Too ſtrong had fix'd their ſtate—deſpair.
While then the glory may be thine
To conquer, let not paſs the power;
The ſame ſad fate alike attends
To meet thee in an evil hour.

B.

---

## EPIGRAM.

ADAM awhile in Paradiſe
Enjoy'd his novel life:
He was caught napping; in a trice
His rib was made a wife.
Poor father Adam, what a gueſt!
This moſt unlucky doſe
Made the firſt minute of thy reſt
The laſt of thy repoſe.